

House Committee on Health and Welfare

Minutes of Meeting
2021 Regular Session
May 19, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. in Room 5, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley, chairman
Representative Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Kenny R. Cox
Representative Raymond J. Crews
Representative Michael Charles Echols
Representative Jason Hughes
Representative C. Travis Johnson
Representative Ed Larvadain, III
Representative Wayne McMahan
Representative Patricia "Pat" Moore
Representative Robert "Bob" Owen
Representative Thomas A. Pressly
Representative Larry Selders
Representative Joseph A. Stagni

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Robby Carter
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Dustin Miller
Representative Christopher Turner, vice chairman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Meah Johnson, attorney
Drew Murray, legislative analyst
Kristy Neubrandner, committee administrative assistant

Allie King, committee administrative assistant
Nevonda S. Reed, division director

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Faye Talbot, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Bill No. 108 by Senator Luneau

Senator Luneau presented Senate Bill No. 108, which provides relative to mental health rehabilitation services contracts with Medicaid managed care organizations.

Katie Corkern, Rural Mental Health Alliance, P.O. Box 1048, Amite, LA 70422, (985) 474-0624, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 108.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to:

1. Delete proposed law providing requirements for Medicaid contracts and subcontracts for mental health rehabilitation services which would have been enacted within present law relative to state procurement.
2. Add proposed law providing requirements for Medicaid-covered mental health rehabilitation services within present law relative to Medicaid managed care.
3. Delete proposed law establishing that mental health rehabilitation services providers shall have the right to an independent review of adverse actions taken by Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) in accordance with present law. Add in lieu thereof revisions to the definition of "adverse determination" in present law stipulating that the term shall not include a decision by an MCO that results in a recoupment of the payment of a claim based upon an audit finding of fraud or abuse.
4. Make technical changes.

Representative Stagni offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Representative Selders offered amendments to:

1. Revise present law relative to specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the state Medicaid program to provide that any individual rendering psychosocial rehabilitation services who does not possess the minimum bachelor's degree required in present law, but who met all provider qualifications in effect prior to July 1, 2018, may continue to provide those services for any licensed and accredited provider agency.
2. Make technical changes.

Representative Selders offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Karen Stubbs, Louisiana Department of Health, 628 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-9509, spoke for information only on Senate Bill No. 108.

Representative Cox offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 108 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 108 was reported with amendments by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Pressly, Selders, and Stagni voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 127 by Senator McMath

Senator McMath presented Senate Bill No. 127, which provides relative to specialized behavioral health rehabilitation services in the Louisiana medical assistance program.

Representative Selders offered amendments to expand the fields of study for the bachelor's degree requirement. Representative Selders offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 127 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 127 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, and Selders voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 4 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Senate Bill No. 143 by Senator McMath

Senator McMath presented Senate Bill No. 143, which provides relative to permanent placement of children in custody of the state.

Madeleine Landrieu, Louisiana Institute for Children in Families, 526 Pine Street, New Orleans, LA 70118, (504) 495-9959, spoke in support of Senate Bill No. 143.

Marketa Walters, secretary, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), 627 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, (225) 342-6930, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 143.

Representative Hughes offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 143 favorably. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 143 was reported favorably by a vote of 13 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Adams, Cox, Crews, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, and Selders voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Statements submitted in accordance with House Rule 14.33 in lieu of appearing before the committee are as follows: 6 in support. Copies of these statements are included in the committee records.

Action was taken by the committee on House Bill No. 192 by Senator Hensgens at a later point in the meeting after the presentation detailed in IV. Other Business.

Senate Bill No. 192 by Senator Hensgens

On behalf of Senator Hensgens, Representative Pressly presented Senate Bill No. 192, which provides for connecting multiple recreational vehicles to an individual sewerage system in certain parishes.

Representative Bagley offered amendments to:

1. Revise proposed law to provide that two recreational vehicles, as defined in proposed law, may connect to one individual sewerage system in the parish to which present law and proposed law apply if the system is permitted by the La. Department of Health and the rated capacity of the system is not exceeded.
2. Revise proposed law to provide that for its purposes, "recreational vehicle" means a motorized or towable vehicle that combines transportation and temporary living quarters.

3. Revise proposed law to provide that the term "recreational vehicle" shall not include a mobile home, a dwelling known commonly as a "Katrina cottage", a dwelling known commonly as a "tiny house", a movable house, or any other living quarters designed or intended to have the wheels removed in connection with placement on a lot or parcel of land.
4. Revise present law to stipulate that each waiver provided pursuant to present law shall require 5,000 square feet of contiguous property rather than 5,000 feet of contiguous property.
5. Make technical changes.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, and Selders voted yea.

Representative Bagley offered a motion to report Senate Bill No. 192 with amendments. Without objection, Senate Bill No. 192 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, and Selders voted yea.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Presentation of select findings from the study called for in HCR No. 91 of the 2020 Regular Session on health services for persons incarcerated in state correctional facilities

Representative Landry presented select findings from the study called for in HCR No. 91 of the 2020 Regular Session on health services for persons incarcerated in state correctional facilities.

Bruce Reilly, Deputy Director, Voice of the Experienced (VOTE), 4930 Washington Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125, (504) 759-9420, spoke for information only and provided a handout, Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Ashley Wennerstrom, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center - New Orleans, 533 Bolivar Street, New Orleans, LA 70112, (504) 717-5635, spoke for information only.

Andrea Armstrong, Loyola University New Orleans, no address provided, armstron@loyno.edu, spoke for information only.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Hughes offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Bagley, Cox, Echols, Hughes, Travis Johnson, Larvadain, McMahan, Moore, Robert Owen, Pressly, and Selders voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Lawrence A. "Larry" Bagley
House Committee on Health and Welfare

Date adopted: